

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended): A method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition using fats and oils containing a fatty acid glyceride and/or fatty acid, wherein alcohol and/or water is ~~allowed to co-exist~~ present along with said fats and oils in a same reaction vessel and the reaction is conducted under conditions of a temperature of 100°C to 370°C and a pressure of 1 to 100 MPa, wherein the amount of water is 3 to 1000 mol per mol of the fatty acid glyceride contained in said fats and oils, and the amount of alcohol is 1 to 330 mol per mol of the fatty acid contained in said fats and oils.

2. (Currently Amended): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according to Claim 1, ~~comprising a process of allowing~~ wherein alcohol and water ~~to co-exist~~ is present in said same reaction vessel along with said fats and oils, and said fats and oils contain ~~containing at least~~ a fatty acid glyceride, and conducting the reaction under conditions of a temperature of 100°C to 370°C and a pressure of 5 to 100 MPa, to convert the fatty acid glyceride and fatty acid contained in said fats and oils into a fatty alicyl ~~alkyl~~ ester.

3. (Currently Amended): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according to Claim 1, comprising a first ~~process of allowing~~ step wherein water ~~to co-exist~~ is present along with said fats and oils containing at least a fatty acid glyceride in said same reaction vessel and ~~said~~ conducting the reaction is conducted under conditions of a temperature of 100°C to 370°C and a pressure of 1 to 100 MPa, to convert the fatty acid glyceride contained in said fats and oils into fatty acid, and a second ~~process of adding~~ step wherein alcohol is added to the product from said first ~~step process~~ and ~~conducting the a reaction is conducted~~ under conditions of a temperature of 100°C to 370°C and a pressure of to 100 MPa, to convert the fatty acid contained in the product from the process into a fatty

acid alkyl ester.

4. (Currently Amended): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according to Claim 1, comprising a process ~~of allowing wherein alcohol to co-exist~~ is present with said fats and oils in said vessel and said fats and oils contain ~~containing~~ no fatty acid glyceride and conducting the reaction under conditions of a temperature of 100°C to 370°C and a pressure to 5 to 100 MPa, to convert the fatty acid contained in said fats and oils into a fatty acid alkyl ester.

5. (Cancel).

6. (Currently Amended): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according to Claim ~~5~~1, wherein the amount of water is 30 to 400 mol and the amount of alcohol is 30 to 400 mol per mol of the fatty acid glyceride contained in said fats and oils, and the amount of alcohol is 10 to 130 mol per mol of the fatty acid contained in said fats and oils.

7. (Previously Presented): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according to Claim 1, using alcohol having 1 to 10 carbon atoms as said alcohol.

8. (Currently Amended): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according [of] Claim 1, wherein said fatty acid alkyl ester composition is used as a diesel fuel oil.

Please add the following new claims:

9. (New): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according to claim 1, wherein said reaction is conducted in the absence of a metal alkali catalyst and an acid catalyst.

10. (New): The method for producing a fatty acid alkyl ester composition according to claim 1, wherein said reaction is conducted in the absence of any catalyst.